



THE AIRMAN'S SOURCE FOR LEGAL INFORMATION



# THE BARRACKS LAWYER

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## EXPLANATION OF DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE AT THE LEGAL OFFICE

### General and Special Powers of Attorney:

A power of attorney (POA) is a written document that gives one person (the agent) the authority to act on your behalf. While deployed, you may need someone to consult the finance office, to manage your bank accounts, to buy or sell assets or property, etc. Your agent should be your spouse, parent or a trusted friend, since a POA gives that person permission to act on your behalf.

We offer both a general or special power of attorney. A general power of attorney gives the agent broad powers to act on your behalf. However, they are rarely accepted by banks or businesses. For most situations, a special power of attorney with a limited purpose is most favorable.

A POA is "good" for a certain period of time and only while you are alive and not incapacitated.

If you fall into a coma (for example), your POA can NOT be used. However, there is one power of attorney that could be used even if you are incapacitated (unconscious, in a coma). It is called a durable power of attorney. While a durable power of attorney will work should you become incapacitated, there is NO POA that will work in the event of your death.

### Last Will and Testament:

A will is a legal document that controls the disposition of your property and appoints a guardian for your children upon your death. If you don't already have a will, we encourage you to get one especially if you have significant savings and/or real and personal property. If you do already have a will, you may need a new one if any of the following are true:

1. Changes in family: birth, death, marriage, divorce

2. Change in legal residence
3. Changes in assets
4. Changes in how you wish your property to be distributed

### Advance Medical Directive:

An advance medical directive is a set of instructions that describe medical treatments you do or do not want if you are unable to make these decisions for yourself due to serious injury or terminal illness. An advance medical directive can consist of a living will and/or a durable power of attorney for healthcare.

A living will allows you to express your own wishes to your physician while a durable power of attorney for healthcare authorizes another person ("the agent") to make these decisions on your behalf. Both of these documents become effective only if you are unable to express your own wishes.

## LEGAL ASSISTANCE

### Powers of Attorney & Notary Service

*Monday - Friday*  
(walk-in basis)

0900-1500

\*Military Priority  
1100-1300

### Attorney Visit

(by appointment only)  
Call 228-5242

OR

### Walk-In Attorney Visits

(no appointment needed)

Thursday

Active Duty & Dependents Only  
0730-0830

## CLAIMS ASSISTANCE

### **Air Force Claims Service Center**

Fast \* Friendly \* Fair  
M-F 0700-1700 EST  
Phone: 877-754-1212

Damage of Household  
Goods from DPS  
Shipments  
[www.move.mil](http://www.move.mil)

## TAX SEASON IS HERE AGAIN.

DMAFB VITA volunteers are trained and certified by the IRS to prepare a variety of returns for our military community. This is a free service for any Active Duty, dependents (with military ID), National Guard, Reserve, Public Health, and Military Retiree with access to the base. The appointment line will open 12 January 2015 for Active Duty, National Guard, Reserve, and Public Health personnel to schedule an appointment. Appointments will start when the W-2s are available on MyPay, approximately 20 January 2015. Appointments for all others will be scheduled starting on 2 February 2015. Appointment Phone Number: 228-3489

## PREPARING FOR YOUR LEGAL ASSISTANCE APPOINTMENT

LOG ONTO: <https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil>  
TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT CALL 228-5242

### Wills & Powers of Attorney

1. Click on tab "Legal Worksheets."
2. Complete worksheet for documents you wish to have created.
3. Save your ticket number, then call the Legal Office for an appointment.
4. Please complete online survey!

### Legal Assistance

1. Click on tab "Legal Information."
2. If the information you are looking for is not listed, call the Legal Office for an appointment.
3. Please complete online survey!

## WISDOM - VALOR - JUSTICE

### HOW TO PREPARE YOUR LEGAL AFFAIRS BEFORE DEPLOYMENT

Have you received orders to deploy? As members of the U.S. military, being away from home and family for extended periods of time is a constant reality. Deployments are never easy, but proper preparation can help minimize stress for you and your family while you are away. Below are some tips on how to best prepare yourself legally:

#### Deployer Tips

1. Don't delay! As soon as you receive orders to deploy, begin to prepare your legal affairs. **We cannot guarantee the availability of appointments if you wait until the last minute.**
2. Read page 1 of this edition to help determine which legal documents you will need to prepare before you leave.
3. BEFORE visiting the legal office, save time by visiting the Air Force legal assistance website at <https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil> and following the applicable instructions at the top of this page.
4. You need to schedule an appointment with an attorney if you need a last will and testament, an advance medical directive (living will), or a durable power of attorney. We recommend filling out a will worksheet on the legal assistance website (above), writing down the ticket number, and call 228-5242 or 228-1402 to set up an appointment.
5. General and specific powers of attorney are available on a walk-in basis Mon - Fri 0900-1500. You do not need an appointment unless you require a durable power of attorney. Please visit the legal assistance website above to fill out the applicable power of attorney worksheets and have your ticket number(s) available when you visit the legal office.
6. If you require an attorney's assistance with any other legal issues (SCRA, landlord/tenant, divorce, custody, consumer debt), set up an appointment with an attorney by calling 228-5242 or 228-1402 or coming into our office during walk-in hours.

**Deployed Family Dining— monthly program allowing families of deployed or remote troops to eat for free at the Desert Inn Dining Facility the first Tuesday of each month between the hours of 4-6pm. Contact A&FRC for more information, 520-228-5690.**

### SERVICEMEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT (SCRA)

#### LEASE TERMINATION

According to the SCRA, military members who receive orders to deploy or PCS for more than 90 days, may terminate their lease if: 1) notice is given in writing; and, 2) a copy of orders accompanies your notice. Note, termination begins 30 days after your next rental payment due date. So, if your rent is due on the first of the month and you give notice mid-month, you will still be responsible for the next six weeks. Many military clauses in residential leases do not account for long-term TDYs or orders to move on base. Therefore, it would benefit you to request that language be included in the military clause.

To make an appointment to have your lease reviewed by a JAG, call 228-5242.